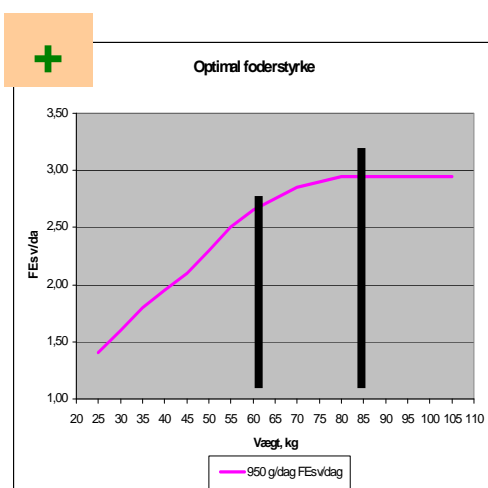


H12 - Finishers - Adjustment of feed chart



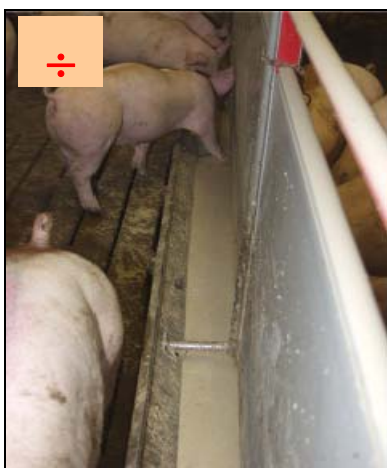
Example of feed chart

With a feed chart, you ensure maximum benefit of pigs' growth potential

1. A feed chart must be adapted to the current production level, ie. daily gain, feed intake, feed conversion and lean meat percentage.

A feed chart consists of 3 periods:

1. A semi ad lib chart until 60 kg
 2. A restrictive chart from 60 kg to approx. 80 kg
 3. A final chart from approx. 80 kg to slaughter
2. The feed graph is only reliable when mixing accuracy and feeding are correct.
 3. Pick a feed chart that is above the average appetite of the pigs so that the feed strength will only need reducing in the period up to 60 kg (see H13). For instance, as a point of departure pick a feed chart with 900 g daily gain and 2.8 feed units per kg gain.
 4. To find the right chart, note the changes made of the valves. Note daily for one month in how many pens with pigs below 60 kg the feed strength is reduced.
 5. If less than 30% of the pigs have had their feed strength reduced up to approx. 60 kg, increase the feed chart by, for instance, 0.1 feed units a day on all points of the chart until the final feed strength is reached.
 6. From approx. 80 kg until delivery for slaughter, give the pigs the same feed dose. Generally, the final feed strength should range from 2.70 to 2.90 feed units a day. Start out with a high final feed strength.
 7. Operate with an average daily feed strength of 2.30-2.60 feed units a day in the weight interval 30-100 kg. Check the production report to follow-up.



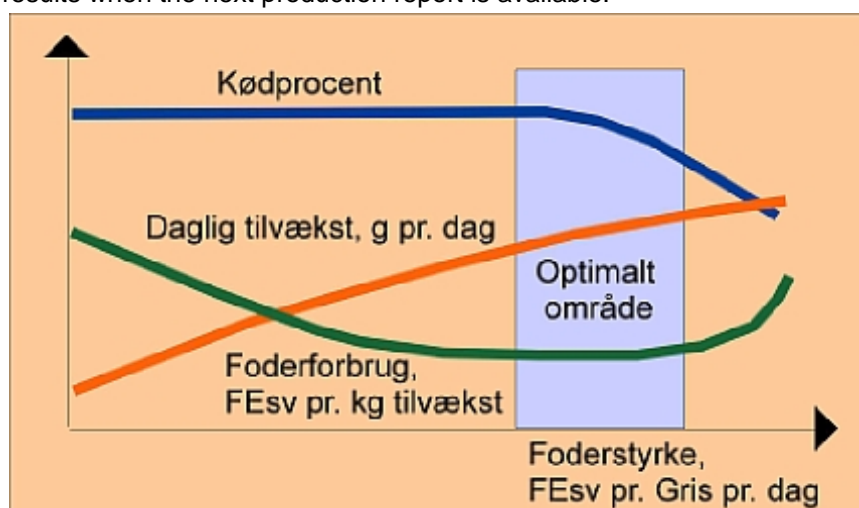
No adjustment of feed

Inadequate adjustment of the feed chart:

- The feed intake is too high or too low, which results in a low daily gain or poor lean meat percentage and feed conversion.
- Weight variation among the pigs.
- Aggressive behaviour among the pigs.
- Feed wastage and mess in the pen.

Additional comments - Finishers - Adjustment of feed chart

1. A liquid feed chart consists of three periods:
 - 1) From transfer to the finisher facility to 60 kg: feed semi ad lib to ensure maximum gain; ie. on 3-4 daily feedings the pigs are given feed that is eaten up within 30 minutes.
 - 2) From 60 kg until the pigs have reached the final feed strength: feed restrictively. The planned final feed strength is reached when the pigs weigh approx. 80 kg, but may vary from 70 to 85 kg. Check daily that the pigs have eaten up within 30 minutes after feeding.
 - 3) From approx. 80 kg until slaughter: give the pigs the same amount of feed daily to ensure a high lean meat percentage and a low feed conversion.Optimise the feed chart to the production conditions in your herd. Your advisor can help make a chart that fits the herd.
2. Before changing a feed chart, check that ingredients and feed formulations are entered correctly in the computer and that feed is mixed homogenously.
3. When the feed chart is higher than the pigs' appetite, feed will only have to be reduced for pens in which the pigs have not eaten up approx. 30 minutes after feeding. The drawback of this is a possible increase in feed wastage when the feed chart is much higher than the pigs' appetite.
4. Every time the feed chart is changed, note the reduction for a month for each valve with pigs below 60 kg. However, this does not apply when the final feed strength is changed.
5. When the form is completed, calculate the percentage of pens that were reduced, and use this result as the basis of adjusting the feed chart to fit the herd.
6. When the feed strength increases, the daily gain increases, but when the pigs' potential for meat production becomes a limiting factor, the lean meat percentage drops. A high final feed strength (above 2.90 feed units a day) may result in a high feed consumption as more energy is required for depositing of fat than of meat. It is therefore important to follow a feeding strategy that lies within the economical optimum area to keep feed conversion low. Use the production report to check whether the final feed strength is correct. This will show whether lean meat percentage and feed conversion are satisfactory. If not, reduce the final feed strength by, for instance, 0.1 feed units a day. Assess the results when the next production report is available.



7. A reliable production report with correct calculation of feed conversion is essential when assessing whether the daily feed strength is adequate.